

10

FORMS
OF
PRAYER,

Proper to be Used

Before, At, and After

The Receiving of the

Holy Sacrament,

Some of which may be fitly made
Use of upon other Occasions.

The Second Edition, Corrected and Enlarged.

L O N D O N:

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T H E

P R E F A C E.

Among the many Endeavours that have been us'd to check the Impieties of the present Age, there is nothing perhaps has been found more successful, than the dispersing in all Parts of the Nation those Excellent Tracts, that have been written of late Years by several Worthy Members of our Church, who laying aside unnecessary Speculations, and what St. Paul calls Vain Janglings, have out of a Zeal for the Glory of God, and the Good of Souls, employed their Time and Pains in writing Practical and Useful Treatisns, which having been scatter'd up and down in great Numbers by Persons Charitably dis-

The Preface.

pos'd, God has been pleas'd to bless the Seed sown, and there is great Reason to believe, that in Time it may produce a very plentiful Crop.

The Composer of these Prayers, animated (he will not say) with an equal Zeal, but with as sincere a Desire to promote the Interest of Religion, has flung in his Mite, in hopes that these Prayers may fall into the Hands of some People, that may find a real Benefit and Advantage by them.

It is not intended, that this little Manual should any ways interfere with the Publick Prayers, or derogate in the least from our Excellent Liturgy, (every part of which is so admirably suited to the Purposes of Religion, that perhaps it will be no Digression from Truth to say, (notwithstanding the cold Reception our Service has met with from some Men, through their unhappy Prejudices and Mistakes)

The Preface.

Mistakes) that better Prayers have not yet been thought of.) But what is chiefly aim'd at by publishing these Devotions, is to assist the good Christian in his private Retirements, both before and after receiving the Holy Sacrament, and to furnish him with proper Prayers to fill up those vacant Spaces, which must necessarily be in every Communion, especially where the Number of Communicants is great, that so he may not only come to the Lord's Table with due Preparation, but employ every Minute of his Time there to Holy and Religious Purposes.

There is no one ('tis hop'd) will think a Work of this Kind unnecessary, because there are already extant so many Prayers for the Sacrament; in this frozen and benumm'd Age, where the Love of many is waxen cold, there is need of all the Endeavours that can be us'd, to warm

The Preface.

Mens Affections, and to inflame their Minds with a true Spirit of Devotion; and since there is such a Variety in the Judgments and Opinions of Mankind, it can be no Disservice to Religion to multiply Books of this Nature, since the greater the Choice is, the more easily will every one furnish himself with such Prayers, as he finds most apt to excite his Devotion.

May God of his Infinite Mercy bless this and all other Endeavours for keeping up, not only the Form, but the Life and Power of Godliness; that in our Addresses to him, we may not offer the Sacrifice of Fools, but pay him the Duty and Homage of Reasonable Creatures.

Forms

Forms of Prayer

Proper to be Used

Before, At, and After

The Receiving of the

Holy Sacrament.

*Whoſo eateth my Fleſh, and drinketh
my Blood, hath eternal Life, and I will
raiſe him up at the laſt Day. St. John
6. 54.*

*A Prayer to be frequently uſ'd the Week
preceding the Sacrament.*

O Almighty God, and Merciful
Father, who haſt given thy
only Son Jeſus Chriſt to die
for us, and didſt inſtitute a
Holy Feaſt in Commemoration of that
his moſt precious Death, thereby to pre-
ſerve in our Minds a conſtant Remem-
brance

brance of his great Love in laying down his Life for our Sakes; I thy unworthy Servant, who am now invited by thy great Goodness to be a Guest at thy Holy Table, do humbly adore thy Divine Majesty, acknowledging, that I am not worthy of the daily Bread thou feedest me withal, much less of that which came down from Heaven, and which thou hast given to be the Food and Nourishment of our Souls. O Lord, I confess my Sins are so many and so great, that they may justly cause me to tremble, when I appear before thee; but, O Merciful Father, perceiving upon that wonderful Goodness, which thou hast shewn in all Ages to the humble and contrite Sinner, I am prostrate before thee at this time, with all Humility beseeching thee to admit me to thy Holy Table, that I may taste and see, how Gracious the Lord is, and how Wonderful in his Doings towards the Sons of Men. O make my Longings and Desires after this Divine Food some way answerable to my great Needs of it, that my Soul being sensible of all its Wants, it may no longer seek for Relief from the unsatisfying Objects of this World; but coming to thy Holy Table with a true
Spiritual

Spiritual Hunger and Thirst, may there find a full Supply of all those Graces and Blessings, that it stands in so much need of.

And to this End, O Lord, fit and prepare my Heart to approach so great a Mystery, by giving me a just Abhorrence of my own Unworthiness, and an unfeigned Repentance of all my Sins, by rooting out of my Heart all sinful and corrupt Affections, and by implanting in the room thereof, all those Devout and Pious Dispositions, that become the Worshipers of the Holy Jesus; that when I presume to appear before thee, I may bring with me a Heart rais'd above the Corruptions that are in the World, and full of the strongest Desires and Resolutions of loving and serving thee.

Deliver me, O my God, from all Coldness and Formality, when I attend upon thee in Holy and Religious Duties, and cloath me with that Wedding Garment thou requirest, that I may not eat or drink my own Damnation, but may have my Pardon seal'd, my Weaknesses repair'd, my Corruptions subdued, my Faith strengthen'd, my Hopes enlarg'd, my Charity encreas'd, and my Soul
so

4 *A Prayer before Examination.*

so intirely and inseparably united unto thee, that nothing may be ever able to dissolve the Union; but that being begun here in Grace, it may hereafter be consummated in Glory, through the Merits of him that died for me, even the Son of thy Eternal Love, Jesus Christ the Righteous, to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed, as is most due, all Honour, Glory, Power, Thanksgiving, and Praise, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

Let a Man examine himself, and so let him eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup. 1 Cor. 11. 28.

A Prayer before Examination, taken for the most part out of Bishop Ken's Exposition of the Church Catechism.

O Thou great Searcher of Hearts, who seest all that Load of Guilt and Impiety, under which I lie; O help me so impartially to judge and condemn my self, so humbly to repent, and beg Pardon, that I may not be condemn'd, when I shall appear at thy Tribunal in the

A Prayer before Examination. 5
the Great and Terrible Day of the Lord
Jesus.

Give me Grace, O Lord, to search every Secret of my Heart, that I may leave no Sin (if possible) unrepented of: Fill my Eyes full of Tears of Love, that with those Tears I may lament all the Indignities I have offer'd to thy Love.

But alas! after the most strict Examination we can make, who can number his Iniquities? who can tell how oft he offendeth? Cleanse me therefore, O Lord, I beseech thee, from all my secret and unknown Transgressions.

If we say, that we have no Sin, we deceive our selves, and the Truth is not in us. But if we confess our Sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our Sins, and to cleanse us from all Unrighteousness. 1 John 1. 8, 9.

A Confession of Sins to be us'd in the time of Preparation for the Blessed Sacrament, and at other times of Humiliation.

Great and Glorious God, Just and Terrible in thy Judgments to all obstinate and rebellious Sinners, but of infinite

6 *A Confession of Sins.*

infinite Mercy to such, as truly repent and turn unto thee ; look down, I beseech thee, with the Eyes of thy tenderest Pity upon me, thy vile and sinful Creature, who with great Humility of Soul and Body, am here prostrate before thee, acknowledging, that I am not worthy to lift up my Eyes to the Throne of thy Glorious Majesty. O Lord, my Sins are so many, and so great, that it is a wonder of thy Patience, that I am now alive, and that thou hast not long before this cut me off from the Land of the Living, and made me a sad Example of thy severe, but just Wrath and Displeasure.

I must acknowledge, O God, that thou hast, by innumerable Instances, manifested thy self to be a most kind and indulgent Father ; but alas ! how shamefully have I abus'd thy Goodness ? And what ungrateful Returns have I made for thy exceeding Kindness and Mercy ? Instead of loving and delighting in thee, I am continually offending thy Divine Majesty, both in Thought, Word, and Deed, by doing those things which thou hast expressly forbidden, and by neglecting to do those things which thou hast commanded ; and though thou hast try'd,
by

by the most gracious Methods of thy Goodness to make me better, yet I am still the same rebellious and ungrateful Creature whom neither thy Judgments have driven, nor thy Mercies lead to Repentance

O Lord, I do most sorrowfully confess and bewail before thee, that there is in my corrupt Heart so great a Backwardness to what is Good, and such a Proneness and Inclination to what is Evil, that I can neither love thee, serve thee, nor obey thee, as I ought to do; when the World invites me, with Greediness do I embrace its Offers, and am eager in the Pursuit of the Profits and Pleasures of it; but alas! when thy Service calls upon me, how often do I either turn my Back, or come unwillingly? O Lord, I must with Shame acknowledge, that my Desires have been so long let loose after the things of this World, that my Devotion to thee is now become cold and languid, my Prayers full of Wanderings, Deadness, and Distractions, and the very best of my Religious Duties are a just Matter of Sorrow and Humiliation before thee.

How greatly, O my God, have I offended thee by Lust and Intemperance, by
Pecvisha-

Peevishness, Passion, and Anger, by Covetousness and Ambition, by Pride and Envy, by Prejudice and Ill-will towards my Neighbour, by murmuring and repining at the Dispensations of thy Providence, and by an Unwillingness to resign my self to thy Disposal in all things? How frequently have I violated my Baptismal Engagements, by preferring the Vanities of this wicked World before thy Favour, and by suffering my Heart, which has been so often dedicated to thy Service, to be brought under the Bondage and Dominion of Sin and Folly?

Even since my last Approaches to thy Holy Table, O Lord, I have not ceased to add new Sins to all my former. I have ——— [Here may be mentioned Particulars.]

And what shall I now say unto thee, O thou Preserver of Man? Lord, I have no Excuse to make, nothing to plead in my Behalf; I cannot say, I knew not what I did, when I committed these Sins; thy Holy Spirit, and my own Conscience, I cannot but acknowledge, would have taught me better things, had I attended to their kind Admonitions and Suggestions: But how often have I resist-
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ed the Motions of the one, and stifled the Checks and Restraints of the other? How often have I pursued the Ways that lead to Death against all the Endearments of thy Love, and all the kind Methods thou hast used to reduce me to thy Obedience?

O wretched Man that I am! whither shall I now betake my self, when I have thus offended the kindest and the best of Beings? O Lord, I have no Refuge to fly unto, nothing to support me under this wretched State of Sin and Misery, but thy Mercy, and the infinite Merits of my Dear Redeemer; and if thou rejectest me, I am lost and undone for ever. But O thou compassionate Lover of Souls! who knowest whereof we are made, and rememberest, that we are but Dust, turn not thy Face from me, nor cast thy Servant away in Displeasure; let the Intercessions of thy beloved Son prevail in my behalf, and for the Sake of his meritorious Death and Passion, for all that he has done, and all that he has suffered for me, have Mercy upon me; pardon and forgive, I most earnestly beseech thee, all the Sins and Follies of my Life past, which are more than I can. number, and greater than I am

able to bear; and more especially, O my God, lay not to my Charge the Sins that I have committed since my last Approaches to thy Holy Table. [*Here again may be named Particulars.*] Cleanse thou me from all my secret and unknown Transgressions, and vouchsafe, O Merciful Father, once more to be reconcil'd unto me, thy humble and repenting Servant, who am sorry for my Sins, and griev'd, that I have thus offended thee, my best and greatest Benefactor: O turn from me all those Evils that I have most righteously deserved, and let me never feel the sad Effects of that Anger, which my Sins have justly rais'd against me; but spare me, O Lord most Holy, O God most Mighty; O Holy and Merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge Eternal, suffer not the Bowels of thy tender Compassions to be for ever shut against me: There is nothing, O Lord, so terrible as thy Displeasure, nothing so dreadful to me, as to sin against thee; (for who can dwell with everlasting Burnings, or who is able to abide the Fury of thy Wrath?) O let me then from this Moment seriously and constantly oppose and forsake all my beloved Lusts and sinful Pleasures, and never
more

more be led away by the deceitful Sollicitations of the World, the Flesh or the Devil; let me henceforward live only unto thee, in an awful Fear of thy great Name, and a constant Regard to thy blessed Will, keeping always a Conscience void of Offence, both towards thee, and towards all Men. Give me Grace to spend my Time religiously, soberly, and usefully, in the subduing my Passions, mortifying my corrupt Inclinations, and in the Practice of all those Duties thou requirest of me, that, when thou shalt think fit to take me out of this State of Trial and Temptation here, I may be received into that Blessed Kingdom, where all Tears shall be wip'd from my Eyes, and Sin and Death shall be no more. Grant this, O Merciful Father, through the Merits and for the Sake of thy Son and my alone Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

When the wicked Man turneth away from his Wickedness, that he hath committed, and doth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his Soul alive. Ezek. 18. 27.

A Prayer to be used at the same time, or shortly afterwards.

O Thou most Gracious and Merciful Father, who out of great Pity and Compassion to my poor Soul, hast given me this Opportunity of humbling my self before thee; accept, I earnestly entreat thee, of the unfeigned Sorrow of my afflicted Soul for all the Sins which I have committed against thy Divine Majesty; I must confess it bears no Proportion to the Heinousness of my Offences, so weak and imperfect is it, that my Repentance it self needs to be repented of. O do thou in much Mercy look upon me, and let the infinite Merits of my Dear Redeemer supply all my Defects, and disdain not, I beseech thee, for his Dear Sake, once more to admit me into thy Favour, without which I am of all Creatures the most miserable: There is nothing, O Lord, I so much desire, as to be delivered from the Power and Dominion of my Sins, and to be at perfect Peace and Union with thee; and therefore I humbly beg leave at this time to renew the Vows and Resolutions, I have so often made, of loving and obeying

A Prayer for the same time. 13

obeying thee ; for which End I offer unto thy Divine Majesty my Soul and Body, and all that is mine, humbly beseeching thee to take them into thy Custody, that being in Safety under thy Protection, they may be for ever dedicated to thee and thy Service.

It is not, O Lord, with any Confidence in my own Strength, that I presume to give up my self to thy Obedience, (for alas I am sensible of the Falseness of my own Heart, and how easily 'tis drawn away by every the least Temptation) but all my Hopes, and all my Dependance is in thy Almighty Power and Goodness, and to that I humbly fly for Help against the cruel Enemy of my Soul, who is daily lying in wait to devour me : I know thy Grace is sufficient for me, and therefore in thee do I put my Trust ; for thou art my Hope and my Confidence, my Saviour and mighty Deliverer ; O never leave me then to my self, but let thy Holy Spirit be always present with me, to defend me in all my Conflicts, to support me under all my Weaknesses and Infirmities, to instruct me in all difficult Cases, and to guide me into those Paths, that lead to Everlasting Life ; and grant, O Lord, I may

14 *A Prayer for the same time.*

never by any Sins and Impurities of mine grieve that Holy Spirit, nor cause him to leave and forsake me, and to abandon me to my own foolish and perverse Will; but give me Grace in all things to follow his Guidance and Direction, and to devote my self entirely to a Life of Virtue and Religion, that denying all Ungodliness and Wordly Lusts, and living Righteously, Soberly, and Godlily in this present World, I may not fail (whatever my Condition may be in this Life) of securing to my self an eternal Inheritance in those blessed Regions of everlasting Rest and Peace, where thou dwellest to all Eternity, and which thou hast reserv'd for them, that truly love and fear thee, through the Merits of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ the Righteous. *Amen.*

To do Good, and to Distribute, forget not, for with such Sacrifices God is well pleased. Heb. 13. 16.

After giving of Alms.

O Blessed God, who didst accept the poor Widow's Mite, wouchsafe, I beseech thee, to accept this small Matter

ter that I have now given towards the Relief of thy poor distressed Servants ; I humbly offer it unto thee, as a Tribute and Acknowledgment, that all I have is from thee, and owing to thy great Bounty and Goodness : O pardon all my vain and sinful Expences, and make me a faithful and wise Steward of all those Talents thou shalt entrust me with, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

This do in Remembrance of me. St. Luke. 22. 19.

For as often as ye eat this Bread, and drink this Cup, ye do shew the Lord's Death, 'till he come. 1 Cor. 11. 26.

Prayers to be used after Sermon is ended, and whilst others are communicating.

I.

O Blessed Lord God, who hast ordained this Holy Feast for a solemn Commemoration of the infinite Love and Kindness of our most Gracious Lord and Master Jesus Christ, in condescending to take our Nature upon him, and to suffer Death upon the Cross for us miserable Sinners, and hast commanded us

16 Prayers after Sermon is ended.

in his most Holy Gospel to *do this in Remembrance of him*; I thy poor unworthy Servant, in Obedience to that Command, and in Confidence of thy unspeakable Goodness, do now approach thy Holy Table, acknowledging my self unworthy so much as to take up the Crumbs that fall from thence, much less to partake of this Feast, which thou hast prepared for thy faithful and obedient Servants; but, O merciful Father, who hast Compassion upon all Men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, pardon, I most humbly beseech thee, for thy dear Son's Sake, all those Sins that have made me thus unworthy, and let thy infinite Goodness and Mercy supply all my Defects, and make up what is wanting in me to fit my Soul for a worthy receiving of this blessed Sacrament.

Drive away from me all those vain and wordly Thoughts, that are so apt to distract my Mind, and render it unfit for Holy and Religious Duties, and fill me with those devout and pious Dispositions, which become thy Presence, and those that attend upon thee.

Give me such a lively Sight and Sense of my Sins and Unworthiness, that I may heartily bewail my Transgressions,
and

Prayers after Sermon is ended. 17

and such Measures of thy Grace, as may enable me to forsake them.

Let the Remembrance of my dying Saviour, and of the infinite Mercy he has shewn to lost Mankind, in laying down his Life for our Sakes, possess my Soul with that Love and Thankfulness to thee, and Charity to my Neighbour, that I may worthily commemorate the great Love of my Saviour in thus dying for us, and thereby be made a real Partaker of all those Benefits he has purchased for us thereby, through his Merits and Mediation. *Amen.*

II.

O Father of Mercies, and God of all Love! who art always more ready to Hear, than we to Pray; disdain not, I beseech thee, to accept the Prayers, which I now offer to thy Divine Majesty in the Name and Mediation of thy beloved Son. Turn not thy Face from me, nor cast thy Servant away in Displeasure; and though I am unworthy the Name of a Child, yet be thou still my Father Merciful and Gracious, and shut not up the Bowels of thy tender Compassions towards me; let the Intercessions of that beloved Son of thine, in whom alone thou art always well pleased, prevail

18 *Prayers after Sermon is ended.*

prevail in my Behalf, and for his Sake
be thou reconcil'd unto me: I have
gone astray, like a Sheep that is lost,
but behold I now return unto thee weary
and heavy laden with the Burden of my
Sins, and ready to sink under a Load of
Human Infirmities: O stretch forth the
Right Hand of thy Majesty, and support
me for thy Mercies sake; rescue me out
of the Power and Bondage of my cor-
rupt Affections, and say unto my Soul,
I am thy Salvation. To thee, O Lord,
I fly for Refuge, O deny me not thy
Succour; to thee I lay open all my
Wants, for thou art the great Physi-
cian of our Souls; O speak the Word
then, and thy Servant shall be healed;
cure me of those many Diseases my Soul
labours under; wash me from the De-
filements that I have contracted by my
Sins, and cleanse me from all Filthiness
both of Flesh and Spirit; let the Blood
of Jesus purge my Conscience from dead
Works, and make me a Guest meet for
thy Holy Table, that being purified
both in Body and Soul, thy Holy Spirit
may vouchsafe to enter into my Heart,
and dwell therein for evermore. *Amen.*

III.

O Blessed Saviour of the World, thou
infinite

Prayers after Sermon is ended. 19

infinite and compassionate Lover of Souls! what Returns of Praise and Thanksgiving shall I make thee for that amazing Instance of thy Goodness, in dying for thy Enemies? Who, O Lord, is able to comprehend the Length and Breadth, the Height and Depth of that Love of thine, which passes all Knowledge, and all Understanding? Nothing but infinite Wisdom can fathom the Depth of so great a Mystery; O do thou vouchsafe to discover so much of it to thy Servant, as may cause me to admire and adore thy Goodness, and to bless thy Name for evermore, that my Mouth being filled with thy Praise, and my Heart with thy Love, I may daily endeavour to walk worthy of those great things thou hast done for me, by a ready and chearful Obedience to all thy Commands, especially this of commemorating thy Death and Passion.

But, O Merciful Father, how shall such a vile Wretch as I am, dare to approach thy Holy Table? How shall I presume to celebrate the Memorial of thy great Love to Mankind, who am daily provoking thy Divine Majesty, and continually transgressing thy just and righteous Laws, whereby I have made
my

20 *Prayers after Sermon is ended.*

my self unworthy so much as to make mention of thy Holy Name: O Lord, though I am a Sinner, yet I am still the Purchase of thy Son's Blood; O then do not despise me, do not reject me, but receive me graciously to thy Mercy for his Merits Sake; let the precious Blood of that immaculate Lamb speak on my behalf, and powerfully interceed with thee for Pity to my Soul; wash me in that Fountain, which thou hast opened for Sin and Uncleaness, and purify my polluted Heart from all those vicious Affections, that are so hateful in thy Sight. And O let me never more forsake thee, the Fountain of living Waters, to pursue the vain and empty Enjoyments of this World, but from henceforward devote my self intirely to thee and thy Service: Let the Remembrance of a Crucified Saviour be always present to my Mind, and be a never-failing Argument to secure me against the Corruptions that are in the World, that as Christ died for me, and rose again, so I may die to Sin, and rise again to Newness of Life, and by the Power and Efficacy of these Divine Mysteries, be enabled to walk before thee in Holiness and Righteousness all the Days of my Life,

Prayers after Sermon is ended. 21

Life, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

IV.

Blessed Jesus, I am now approaching to thy Holy Table, O be not angry if I once more entreat thee to work in me whatsoever is wanting to fit me for thy Divine Acceptance, and a worthy Receiving. Give me Repentance unto Life, not to be repented of; endue me with a lively Faith, a perfect Love, and an universal Charity, that thou pitying my Weaknesses, and forgiving my Infirmities, I may worthily receive these Elements of Bread and Wine to my Support and Comfort in this Life, and my Eternal Happiness in that which is to come. Grant this, O Merciful Saviour, for thy own Dear Merits Sake. *Amen.*

Let us draw near with a true Heart, in full Assurance of Faith, having our Hearts sprinkled from an evil Conscience, and our Bodies washed with pure Water.
Heb. 10. 22.

At the Table.

O Gracious God, whose Pity and Compassion exceeds the Kindness
of

of the most tender Father, look upon thy Servant, who encourag'd by thy Goodness, have here presum'd to cast my self down before thee. O let those Arms that were once stretch'd upon the Cross, be now open to receive me to thy Mercy. I am vile and sinful, but whither shall a Sinner under a Load of Guilt and Misery fly, but unto thee, the Fountain of all Goodness? Let thy Merciful Ears, O God, be then open to my Prayers, and spare me, O Lord most Holy, O God most Mighty, O Holy and Merciful Saviour, thou most Worthy Judge Eternal, suffer not thy Anger to rise against me, nor cast thy Servant away in Displeasure, but feed my hungry Soul with this Divine Food, that being filled with thy Grace, it may never more become the Seat of Vanity and Folly, but the constant Residence and Abode of thy Eternal and Ever-blessed Spirit. *Amen.*

Come, Lord Jesus, and take Possession of me, and let every thing that is hateful in thy Sight, fly away from thy Presence. Be thou the only Object of my Love, the only Spring of my Desires, the constant Food and Nourishment of my Soul in this Life, and its eternal Reward and Happiness in that which is to come.

After

After the Bread.

O Thou who vouchsafest to be our Food, nourish my Soul to Life Eternal.

Let me feed on thee by a true and lively Faith, and give me such a Relish to this Divine Food, that I may never more be delighted with the vain and sinful Pleasures of this World.

O merciful Jesu! create in me *Bishop Kenn.*
a mighty Hunger after this Bread of Life, this Bread which came down from Heaven, and let this Divine Food instil into my weak and languishing Soul new Supplies of Grace, new Life, new Love, new Vigour, and new Resolutions, that I may never again faint, or droop, or tire in my Duty.

Before the Cup.

Grant, O Merciful God, that this Cup, which I am now about to receive, may be filled with thy Mercy, and be unto me the Cup of Eternal Blessing. O let me never drink of the Dregs of thy Wrath, nor pour upon me the
Vials

Vials of thy severe Displeasure, but sprinkle me with the Blood of the Ever-blessed Jesus, that my Soul being cleansed from all its Corruptions, it may be ever precious in thy Sight, O Lord, my Strength, and my Redeemer.

After both.

IT is finish'd, Blessed be the Name of the Lord. Blessing, and Honour, and Glory, and Thanksgiving, and Praise, be unto him that sitteth on the Throne, and to the Lamb, for ever and ever.

Lord, I have done as thou hast commanded me, O let me find the great Benefits of this thy Divine Institution; pour down thy Graces upon me; direct my Goings in thy Ways, and enable me by the Power and Strength of this Divine Food, to persevere in the Practice of a Holy and Religious Life, even to the last Moment of my Days. *Amen.*

Praise the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me, praise his Holy Name.
Psal. 103. 1.

Praise

A Thanksgiving afterwards. 25

Praise the Lord, O my Sou, and forget not all his Benefits. Verse 2.

Who forgiveth all thy Sin, and healeth all thy Infirmities. Verse 3.

A Thanksgiving afterwards.

O Merciful and Gracious God, whose Goodness is unspeakable, and whose Mercies know no End, accept, I humbly pray thee, of my unfeigned Thanks, which I now offer to thy Divine Majesty, in return for all the Benefits which thou hast been pleased to bestow upon me and all Mankind, but more especially for that amazing Instance of thy Love in the Redemption of the World by the precious Blood of thy own dear Son; for instituting this Holy Sacrament, to the End we might always remember the exceeding Love of our Saviour in thus dying for us, and for admitting me, who am a vile and sinful Creature, to be a Guest at thy Holy Table, and thereby a Partaker of such great and mighty Benefits. Lord, what is Man! that thou art thus mindful of him? or what am I, that thou should'st so regard me? Great is thy Name, O God, and great is thy Mercy, thy Goodness is without End: O let the Confession
C ration

26 *A Thanksgiving afterwards.*

ration of these thy Mercies sink deep into my Heart, and raise in my Mind such a sincere Love to thee, and such a hearty Zeal to thy Service, that I may no longer be Barren or Unfruitful under so great Means of Grace, but that my Returns of Duty and Obedience may (so far as is possible) bear some Proportion to those great Things thou hast done for me.

To that End, O Lord, replenish my Soul with all those Graces, that thou seest to be most wanting in me. Subdue in my rebellious and corrupt Nature every proud Thought, and whatever exalts it self against thy blessed Will, that I may walk before thee in all Meekness and Humility, in Patience and Contentedness, and in the Practice of all those Holy and Religious Duties which become thy Servants, and those that profess thy Name.

This, O Lord, is the earnest Desire of my Soul; but how insufficient am I of my self for these things? Alas! my own Experience sadly teaches me, that without thy restraining Grace, every the least Temptation will be able to baffle my strongest Resolutions: O be thou my Help in Time of Need, my Saviour and mighty Deliverer; let the Assistance of
thy

A Thanksgiving afterwards. 27

thy Holy Spirit be always present with me, that I may not be beguil'd by the Deceitfulness of Sin, or betrayed by my own treacherous Heart; but fighting manfully under thy Banner against the World, the Flesh, and the Devil, I may at last obtain that Crown of Righteousness, which thou hast promised to them, that persevere unto the End. Grant this, O Merciful Father, for the Merits and Sake of thy Son, and our alone Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

I exhort therefore, that first of all Supplications, Prayers, Intercessions, and giving of Thanks, be made for all Men.

For Kings, and for all that are in Authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable Life in all Godliness and Honesty.

For this is good and acceptable in the Sight of God our Saviour. 1 Tim. V. 1, 2, 3.

Here may be properly used this Prayer of Intercession, when there is time for it.

O Almighty and most Merciful God, who in thy Holy Gospel hast commanded us to make Payers and Intercessions for all Men; I thy unworthy Servant, in Obedience to that Command,

28 *A Prayer of Intercession.*

do humbly beseech thy Divine Majesty to extend thy Pity and Compassion to the whole Race of Mankind. Give thy enlightning Grace to those that are in Darkness, and thy converting Grace to those that are in Sin, that all such as have erred, and are deceived, may be brought into the way of Truth and Holiness, that so their Souls may be saved in the Great Day of the Lord Jesus.

More particularly, O Lord, be Merciful to these Nations to which I belong; pardon our great and crying Sins, and avert from us those Evils, that we have most justly deserved; put a stop to that Profaneness and Irreligion, that Pride and Vanity, that Bitterness and Uncharitableness, that so abounds; and let Truth, and Righteousness, and Peace flourish and prevail among us; that we turning from our evil Ways unto thee, the Lord our God, thou may'st turn from thy Displeasure against us, and delight over us, to do us Good, to build us up, and not to destroy us.

Be Gracious to thy Holy Catholick Church, especially that Part of it, which thou hast planted in these Kingdoms; heal the Breaches, and compose the unhappy Differences, that have so miserably rent and divided it; and grant that
all

all its Professors may live together like Brethren of the same Father, (God Blessed for ever) in the Unity of the Spirit, and in the Bond of Peace.

To that End, O Lord, bless the Pastors and Governors of thy Church, give Success to all their Labours and Endeavours for the good of Souls, and grant that by the Innocency of their Lives, and the Soundness of their Doctrine, they may promote thy Honour and Glory, and set forward the Salvation of all Men.

Bless, O Merciful Father, her Gracious Majesty Queen *Anne*, protect her Person, prosper her Government, direct her Counsels, give Success to her Arms, and make her an Instrument in thy Hands of great Good to these Kingdoms; that under her we may lead quiet and peaceable Lives, in all Godliness and Honesty.

Let the Mournings, O Lord, of such as are in any Affliction, ascend up unto thy Throne, and bring down from thence such Help and Comfort as thou seest best for them, and however thou thinkest fit to deal with them in this World, yet, O Gracious Father, let them not fail of everlasting Mercy and Comfort in that which is to come.

30 *A Prayer of Intercession.*

Let a double Portion of thy Blessings,
O God, descend upon my dear Wife;
give us both Grace to discharge the Du-
ties of our respective Relations, and grant
that we may live together lovingly and
kindly, holly and religiously,

*This to be
varied or omit-
ted, according
to every one's
Condition.*

ly, and in thy Fear and Fa-
vour all our Days.

Bless those dear Children
thou hast given us, and assist
us by thy good Spirit, to bring them up
in the Fear of thee our God; that as
they grow in Years, so they may in-
crease in Grace, and in thy Favour, and
be Comforts to us all our Days.

Let every one of our Friends and Re-
lations, O God, be of the Number of
those, whom thou lovest and delightest
in; defend them against all the Evils of
this World, and after a safe and hap-
py Passage through this Life, give them
everlasting Rest and Comfort with thee,
in thy eternal Kingdom.

And, O Lord, if there are any
that have done me Wrong, or which
hate me without a Cause; give them
Repentance, and better Minds, and ne-
ver impute to them any Injuries I may
have received at their Hands: And en-
due me, I beseech thee, with such a meek
and

A Prayer of Intercession. 31

and patient Disposition, that no Provocations whatsoever, may at any time transport me into an angry or revengeful Temper.

These Mercies, O God, and whatever else thy infinite Wisdom knowest to be most expedient, either for our Souls or Bodies, vouchsafe to grant us, for the Merits and Sake of thy Son, and our alone Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

This Intercession may be properly used at any other time, and particularly in the time of Preparation for the Sacrament.

A Concluding Prayer.

Blessed be thy Name, O Lord, for the Opportunity thou hast now afforded me, of commemorating the Death and Passion of thy dear Son. Pardon, I most humbly beseech thee, the Deadness of my Heart at this time, the Wanderings of my Prayers, and the Coldness of my Devotion. O let thy Mercy and Goodness supply all my Defects, and do thou accept of my imperfect Services, imperfect Faith, imperfect Love, and imperfect Obedience, through the Merits, and for the Sake of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ the Righteous, to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy

32 *A Prayer at our Return Home.*

Ghost, be all Honour and Glory ascribed now and for evermore. *Amen.*

*I have sworn, and I will perform it,
that I will keep thy righteous Judgments.*
Psal. 119. 106.

A Prayer to be used at our Return Home.

PErmit me, O Lord, thy unworthy
Servant, once more to bless and
praise thy Holy Name, for thy merciful
Goodness this Day vouchsafed me, in
admitting me, who am but sinful Dust
and Ashes, to approach thy Holy Table,
and for that Pity and Compassion thou
hast shewn to my diseased Soul, in
strengthening and refreshing it with the
precious Body and Blood of thy Dear
Son. O that I could in some Measure
make Returns unto the againe suitable
to that exceeding Kindness I have received from thee! But, O Lord, how insufficient am I for so great a Work? O do thou manifest thy Strength in my Weakness, and grant that by the Virtue of that Blessed Sacrament I have this Day been a Partaker of, I may be enabled to subdue all the Enemies of my Salvation,
and

A Prayer at our Return Home. 33

and in all things to become such as thou wouldest have me to be.

Vouchsafe me, O most Merciful Father, by the Participation of these Divine Mysteries, such Supplies of thy Grace ^u and Heavenly Spirit, as may renew all the Decays of my corrupted Nature, and cure those many Wounds and Diseases that Sin has made in my depraved Soul. O let not those Lusts and Passions, that have hitherto tyranniz'd over me, be any longer suffer'd to reign in me; but endue me, O Lord, with a true Christian Spirit, with Meekness and Humility, with Patience and Charity, and with all those Graces and virtuous Dispositions, that thou lovest and delightest in; that as I am now devoted to the Service of Jesus Christ, so I may daily endeavour more and more to please him in all things, by imitating his Example, delighting in his Laws, promoting his Honour, and doing every thing that becomes the Servant of so kind and gracious a Master. Let me remember that the great Design of his Coming into the World, was to redeem us from all Iniquity: And O let that Consideration make me in good Earnest resolve to have no Friendship with those Enemies of his, the

34 *A Prayer at our Return Home.*

the World, the Flesh, or the Devil, but with the greatest Courage and Resolution withstand all their Assaults, till through his Grace assisting me, I become at length more than Conqueror.

To a Bless, O Lord, I beseech thee, all thy Sacred Institutions for my Encrease in Righteousness and true Holiness, that I may daily grow in Grace, and increase in that Wisdom which is from above; that a so good Conscience being my greatest Care, and Religion my chief Delight, I may live in thy Favour, and die in thy Peace, and at last through thy Mercy be found meet to be a Partaker of the Inheritance of the Saints in Light.

Hear me, O most Merciful Father, through the Mediation, and for the Sake of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c,

Who so offereth me Thanks, and Praise, be honoureth me. Psal. 50. 23.

O Praise the Lord, for it is a good thing to sing Praises unto our God, yea, a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful. Psal. 147. 1.

A General Thanksgiving proper to be used upon the Lord's-Day in our Evening-Retirements, especially upon Communion-Days.

O Most Glorious and Eternal Lord God, the Almighty Father of Men and Angels, look Graciously upon thy Servant, who am here prostrate before thee, to offer up the humble Tribute of my unfeigned Praises to thy Divine Majesty, from a Heart truly mov'd with a Sense of thy infinite and unspeakable Goodness: I know, O Lord, that as I am not able to conceive the Greatness of thy Love, (which is as far above our Thoughts, as the Heavens are in Comparison to the Earth) so neither is it in the Power of a poor sinful Creature to make any Returns suitable to that exceeding Kindness, which thou hast shewn in all Ages to the Sons of Men; but, O Merciful Father, who disdainest not the Acknowledgements of a truly thankful Heart, accept I humbly pray thee, of that Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving, which I now present before thy Throne of Grace for those numberless Mercies and Benefits, which thou hast vouchsaf'd to bestow upon me.

I bless thee, O Lord, for creating me at first out of nothing, for preserving me, when I was yet in my Mother's Womb, for causing me to be Born of Christian Parents, and for admitting me by an early Baptism into the Communion of thy Church; for all the Helps and Assistances of thy Grace, which I have since had to enable me in any Measure to perform the Engagements, that were then made on my Behalf; for implanting in my Mind an early Fear of offending thee, and a great Desire of pleasing thee; for whatever Sin I have at any time escaped, and whatever Good I have done through the whole Course of my Life; for all thy Patience and Forbearance towards me, for sparing me so long, and giving me so large a Space for Repentance; for all the Motions of thy good Spirit, and the Checks and Restraints of my own Conscience; for the many Opportunities thou hast given me of serving thee, and calling upon thy Name, *particularly, O Lord, for those of this Day*, and for all other the Means of Grace, and for the Hopes of Glory; but above all, I magnify, I bless, I adore thy Great and Glorious Name for sending thy Son into the World to die for me, and for all the Blessed Advantages,

vantages, which by his precious Blood-shedding he hath obtained for me.

But, O Lord, as thou hast not only been mindful of my Soul, but of my Body also, so I desire to return unto thee my most hearty Praises for all the Temporal Mercies, which I have received from thy most bountiful Hand.

I bless thee, O Lord, for that long Health I have enjoyed, for the many Friends and Relations thou hast given me, for delivering me from the sad Calamities I have justly deserv'd, and with which many of thy best and dearest Servants have been visited: 'Tis to thy Goodness I must ascribe it, that I have the Use of my Senses, and of my Reason, that I am not languishing upon a Bed of Sicknes, nor groaning under the sharpest Pains, that I am not pining with Want, nor forc'd to beg my daily Bread, but am competently provided for, and see

my * *Dear Wife and Children*, and many other Comforts round about me: 'Tis from thee alone, O Lord, my Affairs do in any Measure prosper, or any the least of my Undertakings succeed; 'tis thy Wisdom that directs me, thy Truth that instructs me, and thy Power that at all times preserves me.

** This to be varied according to every Person's Condition.*

And

And now, O Lord, what Returns shall a poor Sinner make for all these marvellous Instances of thy Mercy and loving Kindness? Shall my Tongue be daily sounding forth thy Praises? Alas! what will that avail me, unless I manifest the Sincerity of those Praises by a Holy Life and Conversation? O give me Grace then, I most humbly beseech thee, to shew forth the Sense I have of thy Love, not with my Lips only, but in my Life, by walking before thee in all Godliness and Honesty, by serving thee faithfully, and making a right Use of all those Blessings thou bestowest on me, by doing every thing that I know will please thee, and carefully avoiding whatever I know will displease thee. O let not any Ingratitude of mine ever provoke thee, to withdraw thy Mercies from me, but grant that the Remembrance of thy loving Kindness towards me, may be a never-failing Motive to excite my Thankfulness, and encourage my Obedience; that devoting my self intirely to thy Service, I may daily grow in Grace, and be continually advancing to new Degrees of thy Love, that these Blessings here may be as so many Earnests of thy future Mercies, which I beseech thee to grant me for the Sake of thy beloved

beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy Ghost, be ascribed, as is most due, all Honour, Glory, Power, Thanksgiving, and Praise, both now and for evermore. *Amen.*

God is our Hope and Strength, a present Help in Trouble. Psal. 46. 1.

A Prayer to be used in Time of Temptation.

O God, our Refuge and Strength, who art a present Help in Time of Trouble! I fly unto thee for Succour against the Face of my Enemy, who has now lift up his Hand against me; his Strength is mighty, and his Malice great, and I alas! weak and unable to withstand his Assaults; but O thou, who art greater than all Things, send down thy Help from above, and rescue me out of the Jaws of the devouring Lyon; save me, and deliver me from the Temptations I am now under, which are too mighty for me, and unless thou helpest me, will certainly prevail against me: In thee, O Lord, have I put my Trust, O let me never be brought to Confusion; but hide me under the Shadow of thy Wings, until this Tyranny be over-past;
and

40 *A Prayer in Time of Temptation.*

and however thou may'st think fit to make Trial of my Love and Obedience, yet suffer me not, I beseech thee, to be tempted above what I am able to bear, but make me a Way to escape, that I may not sin against thee; for nothing, O Lord, is so terrible as thy Displeasure, nothing so grievous to me, as to sin against thee: O leave me not then, I humbly entreat thee, to my self, nor to the Weakness of my own corrupt Nature; I have no Strength of my own, but all my Hopes, and all my Dependance is in thy Almighty Power and Goodness: I know thy Grace is sufficient for me; O deny it not then to thy Servant, who now needs it, and most earnestly desires it; and though I am not worthy of the least of all thy Mercies, yet O Merciful Father, who pitiest the Weaknesses and Infirmities of thy Children, have Compassion on me, and help me, that I may not be vanquish'd in this time of Trial and Temptation; but fighting manfully under Christ's Banner, who is the Great Captain of our Salvation, I may at last triumph with him in his eternal Kingdom, where there shall be no more Conflict with Sin, but I shall Love and Praise thee throughout all Ages. *Amen.*

F I N I S.